

CALL FOR ARTISTS

Paddle to Nisqually

Canoe Journey Logo



The Nisqually Indian Tribe Canoe Planning Group along with coordinating tribal staff are excited to announce an opportunity for artists to create artwork for the Paddle to Nisqually 2026 canoe journey logo.

Design Opportunity:

The Nisqually Tribe canoe journey planning group is coordinating with tribal council and the planning department on this call for artists to gather logo concepts. We are looking to represent healing, and share stories of our Nisqually People and Culture through this logo.

- The headline is “Paddle to Nisqually Medicine Creek Potlatch.”
- The art will be in the center of the logo.
- The phrase under logo is “Healing Through Our Waters By Honoring Our Ancestors.”

Concepts for the Artwork:

- Paddle to Nisqually –

The canoes have rested, yet spirits stay near,
Their songs flow eternal, year after year.
We honor the journey, the prayers, the flame,
The sacred teachings live, forever the same.
From river to ocean, the ancestors call,
The People of the Grass, The People of the River, stand tall.
With cedar and salmon, with stories retold,
The circle of life is a blessing of old.
Now we are patient, with hearts open wide,
Trusting the waters, the moon, and the tide.
For next year shall rise with a sacred song,
Paddle to Nisqually, where spirits belong.

- Coast Salish design encouraged but not required
 - Suggested themes - Connecting generations, and sharing knowledge; Emphasis on traditional plants, water, and Medicine Creek/Springs.

SCOPE OF WORK

- Submit logo image packet to the Chelsie Sharp, or Marla Thomas. (email, mailed, or in person at the drop box at the Tribal Administration Front Desk)
- After submission the Canoe Journey Planning Group will select artwork, and work with artists for purchase, and installation. Artist to work with Canoe Journey Planning Group

ART LIMITATIONS/INFORMATION : Artwork pieces can be submitted in complete, or draft versions.

COMPENSATION: Artist will be compensated for their design work.

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TIMELINE/SUBMISSIONS: Artist submissions are due November 21, 2025. Canoe Journey Planning Group will review submissions, contact artist for interview if needed, inform artist if selected, and update artist with deadlines. Tentative selection date will be December 1, 2025. The Canoe Journey Planning Group will review submitted images, and artists will be selected based on work samples submitted.

FORMAT FOR PROPOSALS

- Include unlimited attachments from artist portfolio showing available work, or completed similar work. **Include cover letter with artist contact information.**
- This opportunity will only be available to Nisqually tribal members at this time.
- **Proposals must be delivered or turned in by Friday November 21st before 5:00 pm**
- All work samples and sketches remain the property of the artist and will be returned to the artist once the selection is complete.
- Questions may be directed to Chelsie Sharp, Planning Special Projects Manager by email at sharp.chelsie@nisqually-nsn.gov, or (360)456-5221, or Marla Thomas, Tribal Council Secretary by email at thomas.marla@nisqually-nsn.gov, or (360)456-5221.
- There will be a drop box at the Tribal Administration Building Front Desk where artists can submit their proposal in person.

MAILED PROPOSALS: Artists will deliver **one** copy of your cover sheet and work samples to the following address either by hand, email, delivery service or by US postal:

Nisqually Indian Tribe
4820 She-Nah-Num Drive SE
Olympia WA. 98513
Phone: 360-456-5221
Attn: Chelsie Sharp, Planning Front Desk

QUESTIONS

For questions, please call or email Chelsie Sharp at sharp.chelsie@nisqually-nsn.gov, or Marla Thomas at thomas.marla@nisqually-nsn.gov.

PROPOSAL TERMS

1. The Nisqually Tribe reserves the right to reject any and all designs received as a result of this request.
2. The Tribe reserves the accept or further negotiate cost, terms or conditions of any design proposal with the selected artist.
3. Selected artists will report to the Tribe's Canoe Journey Planning Group.
4. Selected artists will enter into a design contract agreement with Nisqually Indian Tribe.

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Canoe Journey Logo**



CANOE JOURNEY LOGO 2025

ARTIST COVER SHEET

DESIGN Project

Name:	
Address:	
Phone #:	
Email:	
Tribal Enrollment?	

Please list work samples submitted below. Sketches not selected for this project will be returned to address above via USPS at the address listed above. Feel free to submit additional sketches.

Sketch #	Art Number & Description (Can submit any amount of images)
1.	
2.	
3.	
4.	

Paddle to Nisqually
Medicine Creek Potlatch

**“Healing Through Our Waters By
Honoring Our Ancestors”**